



U.S. Department of Justice

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For Immediate Release

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CITY EMPLOYEE PLEADS GUILTY TO EXTORTION

PHILADELPHIA - Theresa Pinkett, an employee of the City of Philadelphia, pleaded guilty today to extorting over \$5,000 in cash and a cell phone in exchange for services she was required to provide as a City employee. From 2001 to 2003, Pinkett was a Constituent Services Representative for Councilperson Donna Reed Miller, responsible for helping City residents in her district with issues relating to the City. From September 2006 to at least December 2006, Pinkett was a Community Specialist, in the Community Affairs Division, for the City Controller's Office, with similar responsibilities involving all City residents. In exchange for providing assistance, Pinkett unlawfully received payments of cash and a cell phone.

Pinkett faces a maximum sentence of 20 years imprisonment, three years supervised release, a \$250,000 fine, and a \$100 special assessment. Sentencing is scheduled for April 18, 2008.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Sarah L. Grieb.

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